IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

				CR1090AC #
		IN THE UNITED STATES	PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	
Applica Applica	nts: tion No.	KERMODE ET AL.	Group Art Unit: Examiner:	500 E
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SIR:	In acco	rdance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in	n compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the identified herein, are being submitted herewith	
I.	COPIE a.⊠ b.□	A legible copy of (i) each U.S. caused it to be listed; and (iii) a included herewith. Any patents, publications or ot enclosed herewith were previous	and foreign patents; (ii) each publication or all other information or that portion which cause ther information which are listed on PTO/SB asly cited by or submitted to the PTO in one ad upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C.	d it to be listed, is /08 which are not e of the following
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II.	<u>CONC</u> a. ⊠ b. □ c. □	Except as may be indicated beloinformation are in the English land A concise explanation of the relist not in the English language is	ELEVANCE (check at least one box) ow in (b) of this section, all of the patents, punguage (concise explanation not required). evance of all patents, publications or other informs follows: ation is provided for the Examiner's consideration	ormation listed that
III. 🔲	The Ex	to the present application. By	PPLICATION(S) ng co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject bringing this (these) applications to the Exa dentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. §122.	

Art Unit

Filing Date

Serial No.

IV. 🖾	<u>THIS II</u> a. □ b. □ c. ☑ d. □	os is being filed under \$1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b): (check one box) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1)). No fee or statement is required. within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2)). No fee or statement is required. before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3)). No fee or statement is required. before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)). No fee or statement is required.
V. 🗌	before t	OS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c): (check one box) the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a Notice of Allowance 7 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (See 37 C.F.R. 1). No statement; therefore, charge deposit account 13-4772 the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). See the statement below. No fee is required.
VI. 🗌		OS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d): fore payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by the following: a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) as provided below; and charge deposit account 13-4772 the petition fee set forth in §1.17(p).
VII. 🗖		MENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) (check only one box, if applicable) lersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of IDS; or no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and to knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, or some of the items of information contained in the IDS were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
VIII.	PAYMI	A check in the amount of is enclosed for the above-identified fee(s). Please charge Deposit Account No. 13-4772 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee(s). If Applicant has overlooked any additional fees, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit or debit Deposit Account 13-4772. Two Copies of this paper are attached for Deposit Account charges and debits.

It is Applicant(s)' opinion that the claims presently on file patently distinguish the present invention from each of these references. The above references are being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in a combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 13-4772.

Respectfully submitted, KERMODE ET AL.

DANIEL K. NICHOLS

ATTORNEY for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 29,420 Tel. 847-576-5219

Enclosures:

PTO/SB/08

References

Foreign Search Report

Other:

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			U.S.	PATENT DOCUMENTS		
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			EP 1 024 626 A1		HERMANN, RETO	08/02/2000		
			EP 0 756 397 A2		VARADHARAJAN, VIJAY ET AL.	01/29/1997		
			EP 0 843 425 A2		COPPERSMITH ET AL.	05/20/1998		
			WO 00/07326		PERLMAN ET AL.	02/10/2000		
	·		W0 01/11878 A1		EPSTEIN, MICHAEL	02/15/2001		
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